

VOTING BY MAIL  
Recommendations of elections oversight groups

KING COUNTY CITIZENS' ELECTION OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE (CEOC) REPORT  
MAY 2004

- CEOC “believes that moving toward an all vote by mail system should be studied further”.
- King County should have the capacity to hold a countywide vote-by-mail election and should demonstrate that capacity by holding such an election when there is an opportunity to do so.
- Ensure that the voting process has as few barriers as possible – making voters aware of all of their options, including absentee voting.

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KING COUNTY ELECTIONS OPERATIONS AUDIT REPORT  
OCTOBER 2005

- The current dual voting system in King County is inefficient and expensive.
- An all-mail voting system could substantially reduce elections cost.
- The County Council should pursue a study exploring the programmatic and financial advantages and disadvantages of three election alternatives: exclusive voting by mail; a combination of voting by mail with regional voting centers; and maintaining the status quo.
- The County Council should consider establishing a target date in early 2007 to allow sufficient time for the development and preparation of the study, as well as executive, legislative and public review of the study, prior to making a decision on a vote-by-mail policy.

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KING COUNTY INDEPENDENT TASK FORCE ON ELECTIONS  
Report and Recommendations to the King County Executive  
JULY 2005

- Institute vote-by-mail and regional voting centers in 2006.
- Vote-by-mail is already prevalent in King County, is already favored by voters, provides for significant cost savings and stimulates higher turnout among voters.
- Eliminate polling places and establish four to six regional voting centers.